

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
SOUTHERN DISTRICT OF CALIFORNIA

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA,

Plaintiff,

v.

Jessica JUAREZ-Lopez,

Defendant.

Magistrate Case No. 08MJ8693

**FINDINGS OF FACT AND  
ORDER OF DETENTION**

In accordance with § 3142(f) of the Bail Reform Act of 1984 (18 U.S.C. § 3141 et seq.), a detention hearing was held on August 5, 2008, to determine whether defendant Jessica JUAREZ-Lopez, should be held in custody pending trial on the grounds that she is a flight risk. Assistant U. S. Attorney John F. Weis appeared on behalf of the United States. Diane Regan of Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc. appeared on behalf of the Defendant.

Based on the evidence proffered by the United States and the Defendant, the Pretrial Services Officer and the criminal complaint issued against the Defendant on August 5, 2008, by this Court, the Court concludes that the following facts establish by a preponderance of the evidence that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the Defendant required.

//

//

//

//

I

FINDINGS OF FACT

A. Nature and Circumstances of the Offense Charged (18 U.S.C. §3142(G)(1))

1. The Defendant is charged in Criminal Complaint No. 08MJ8693 with the importation of 27.08 kilograms (59.57 pounds) of cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. § 952 and 960. Therefore, probable cause exists to believe the Defendant committed the charged offense.

2. The charged offense is an offense for which a maximum term of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Uniform Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 801 et seq.). Thus, there arises a presumption that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the Defendant as required. See 18 U.S.C. § 3142(e).

3. The offense carries with it a minimum mandatory 10-year sentence and a maximum life sentence. See 21 U.S.C. § 960(b)(1)(B). According to the United States Sentencing Guidelines, the Base Offense level is 34. See USSG § 2D1.1(3). Assuming the Defendant's criminal history score places her in Criminal History Category I, See USSG § 4A1.1, the sentencing range for the Defendant is 151-188 months in prison.

B. Weight of the Evidence Against the Defendant (18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(2)):

1. On August 4, 2008, Defendant was the sole occupant driver of a 2008 BMW 120i. During pre-primary inspection, a Narcotic Detector Dog alerted to the vehicle. The Defendant stated her father bought the vehicle for her a few months ago. Defendant and the vehicle were referred to the secondary inspection lot for further inspection. During secondary inspection, a Narcotic Detector Dog alerted to the vehicle. A subsequent inspection of the vehicle resulted in the discovery of 27.08 kilograms (59.57 pounds) of cocaine concealed within a specially built non-factory compartment in both rocker panels. During a post arrest interview, the Defendant stated she was to be paid \$2,000.00 for smuggling narcotics into the United States.

C. History and Characteristics of the Defendant (18 U.S.C. § 3142(G)(3)):

1. Defendant is a citizen of Mexico.
2. Defendant resides in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico.
3. Defendant's parents reside in Mexicali, Baja California, Mexico.
4. The Defendant has no legal right to remain or work in the United States, as she

1 only possesses a Border Crossing Card.

2 D. Nature and Seriousness of Danger Posed by Release (18 U.S.C. § 3142(g)(4):

3 1. The government proffered no evidence to suggest that release of the Defendant  
4 would pose a danger to any person or the community.

5 II

6 REASONS FOR DETENTION

7 A. There is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed the offense charged in  
8 Criminal Complaint Number 08MJ8695, to wit: the importation of 27.08 kilograms (59.57 pounds) of  
9 cocaine in violation of 21 U.S.C. §§ 952 and 960.

10 B. The Defendant faces a substantial period of time in custody if convicted of the offense  
11 charged in the Complaint. She therefore has a strong motive to flee.

12 C. The Defendant has not rebutted the presumption, based upon the Court's findings, that  
13 there is probable cause to believe that the Defendant committed an offense for which a maximum term  
14 of imprisonment of 10 years or more is prescribed in the Controlled Substances Act (21 U.S.C. § 801  
15 et seq.), and that no condition or combination of conditions will reasonably assure the appearance of the  
16 Defendant at future court proceedings.

17 III

18 ORDER

19 IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that the Defendant be detained pending trial in this matter.

20 IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that the Defendant be committed to the custody of the Attorney  
21 General or his designated representative for confinement in a corrections facility separate, to the extent  
22 practicable, from persons awaiting or serving sentences or being held in custody pending appeal. The  
23 Defendant shall be afforded reasonable opportunity for private consultation with counsel.

24 //

25 //

26 //

27 //

28 //

1 While in custody, upon order of a court of the United States or upon the request of an attorney  
2 for the United States, the person in charge of the correctional facility shall deliver the Defendant to the  
3 United States Marshal for the purpose of an appearance in connection with a court proceeding or any  
4 other appearance stipulated to by defense and government counsel.

5 THIS ORDER IS ENTERED WITHOUT PREJUDICE.

6 IT IS SO ORDERED.

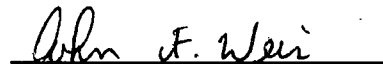
7 DATED: 8-7-08



PETER C. LEWIS  
UNITED STATES MAGISTRATE JUDGE

11 Prepared by:

12 KAREN P. HEWITT  
13 United States Attorney

14  
15   
16 JOHN F. WEIS  
17 Assistant U. S. Attorney

18 cc: Diane Regan  
19 Federal Defenders of San Diego, Inc.  
20  
21  
22  
23  
24  
25  
26  
27  
28